

**From:** kwvbreeves  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 4:07 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Regulation changes

The Honorable Michael J. Cops, Commissioner,

5-25-03

I am writing you to request the you consider the impact that proposed changes in Broadcast Ownership Rules

can bring in the freedom we enjoy today. If these changes are adopted, independent voices all across America could be snuffed

out by huge media corporations. Huge media companies could have the power to control viewpoints that are aired both on TV

and radio. The large conglomerates that could come into control of mass areas, would be able to spread false information

concerning gun control and our rights to own guns. We know that liberal influences have not told the truth about the mis-use

of guns. It is not the gun that kill people, it is the person with the gun. Many millions of law abiding gun owners are being

threatened by the false information that is spread through most of the media in this country. I wonder who would come to the

aid of the victims of crimes if our guns are taken away? I for one don't plan on giving up my rights because someone spreads

false information.

Please keep in mind that we all have the right to hear the truth.

Thank you, Ken Reeves

**From:** Sandra Ham  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 4:56 PM  
**Subject:** Opinion about proposed regulations

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, Martin, and Adelstein,

I am writing to express my opinion about the proposed changes to the media ownership regulations. I am opposed to media consolidation and to your failure to make the text of the proposed changes public information. Media consolidation hurts the public by allowing only a few voices to be heard by those who turn on their televisions or radios. Additionally, these voices communicate the opinions of the owners of the media conglomerates, not of the wide variety of opinions that exist among the people living in the U.S. Although the Internet provides an alternative, Internet access is not universal, nor is it as easy to obtain the same volume of information as one can by turning on CNN or the local news or national news shows for 30 minutes.

American culture I believe is being 'homogenized' by having so much of life dominated by companies who have located retail stores in hundreds or thousands of communities, communities that are built with the same suburban strip mall and cul-de-sac design, and media that all give nearly identical news and entertainment. This takes away the 'specialness' of American living. I do not like the role that the media plays in this because this industry is highly influential by controlling national communications and has been part of the problem of 'homogenization', not the solution. I am in favor of more restriction on ownership and breaking up the media conglomerates by reversing the parts of the 1996 Telecom Act that allowed conglomeration.

Please vote against the proposed changes or at a minimum, delay the vote and open the debate to the public and spend as many hours listening to the public as you have spent listening to the media industry. Making decisions based on the peoples' opinions from open debate is the only fair and democratic means to adopt new national regulations. It is critical for these regulations because they will affect every citizen, every day.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Ham  
Norcross, Georgia

"I tore myself away from the safe comfort of certainties through my love for truth -- and truth rewarded me."

-- Simone de Beauvoir

**From:** Dave  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 6:27 PM  
**Subject:** <No Subject>

Dear Commissioner Copps,

I would like to express that I do \_\_not\_\_ want more consolidation in the media. The only end result I see is less choice and the end of local programming. I like my local programming. I like seeing shows about local events, music, etc. Media needs to be diverse, especially radio and TV. I've heard the arguments that the internet provides diversity. Well this might be true for the 40% of America that has the internet. It's also scary how much dis-information the the internet contains. I know, I'm in tech and use the internet everyday. Localism in the media also makes it easier to hold the media accountable. It's almost impossible for me as a citizen to hold ClearChannel accountable for something I see that's wrong. A stark example is Minot, North Dakota.

These are the public's airwaves, please do what's best in the public's interest. Do not allow more consolidation in the media.

Thank you for your time,

Dave Chilson

**From:** Kelly  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 7:29 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Oppose Media Mergers

Dear Mr. Copps - Thanks for your response. Its getting to be a rarity in government these days.

Please inform the commissioners that BIG trouble is brewing over their outrageous proposal. Americans are becoming aware that WE OWN the airwaves and the media corporations pay us NOTHING, no rent, no fees, NOTHING for its use. Further consolidation of the media will only make matters so much worse.

Consider Denver, which is located near where I live. Nearly every radio station is owned by Clear Channel. Clear Channel is preprogrammed, canned drivel which does absolutely NOTHING to assist local music artists. In addition, because CC has bought local music venues and books music artists into them, they have refused to carry ads on their radio stations for artists performing at other venues. Not a big deal if they owned one of the radio stations, but a far bigger issue when they own ALL OF THEM. They have threatened artists who are considering performing at other venues - "we'll pull rotation of your latest album", etc etc.. I happen to know these things because I worked in the music industry for several years.

I ask you to communicate with the commissioners that the previous consolidation of the media has resulted in untold numbers of abuses and misuses of our public airspace and I, for one, am sick and outraged over it. For the FCC to consider further consolidation is another reminder for all of us just how far into the deep pockets of the media conglomerates the commissioners have fallen.

Tell them to please wake up! What kind of madness are they considering perpetrating upon the American people? Have they forgotten ALL of their high school civics lessons? Do the words FREE AND INDEPENDENT PRESS mean nothing to them anymore?

Thanks for listening.

Kelly Simmons

Michael Copps wrote:

>Thank you for your message concerning media consolidation. I am happy to know  
>that you are participating in the debate over this issue and hope that you  
>will continue to do so in the weeks leading up to the June 2 vote and  
>thereafter. We must come to grips with this issue because it is so important  
>not only for the kinds of entertainment we get from our media, but also from  
>the standpoint of what it means for the news and information that sustains our  
>country's democratic dialogue. I hope you will talk about this issue with  
>your friends, neighbors, local media and government officials. Again, thanks

>for getting in touch.

>

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**From:** D.Shaver/P.Seu  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 7:32 PM  
**Subject:** Proposed Changes in FCC Regulations

To: The Commissioners of the FCC

This email is to add my voice to the many who strongly opposed the proposed changes to FCC regulations that would allow for additional media consolidation. I wholeheartedly agree with William Safire as stated in his May 22nd column in the New York Times: "The diffusion of power through local control, thereby encouraging individual participation, is the essence of federalism and the greatest expression of democracy."

Media consolidation would serve the owners of the media, not the American public. I see this as another step in the "corporatization of America". One person, one vote becomes meaningless in an environment in which the media is centrally controlled, and the opportunity for divergent views to be expressed is constricted. I believe with Mr. Safire that the internet is little, if any, counterweight to traditional broadcast and print media. First, it assumes that all American have access to the Internet--and they do not. It further assumes that people who do have access to the internet are seeking alternative views. The exposure to divergent views is part and parcel of the limits on media monopoly that would be lost in the proposed changes.

I am deeply disturbed by the lack of attention these proposed changes have received in the current press, and I fear that attention would never have been called to changes of this magnitude--of benefit to large media companies--in the world that will exist if the proposed changes are instituted. And I am appalled at the FCC's refusal to invite public scrutiny and input into this decision.

Please do not go forward with these proposed changes. They fly in the face of the concept of a diverse democracy.

Regards,

Donna Shaver  
2407 SE 152nd Avenue  
Vancouver, WA 98683  
pseu@pacifier.com

**From:** Wayne & Debbie  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 8:54 PM  
**Subject:** concerned citizen

Mr Copps,

We are still considered a free nation in which all point of views can be expresed, My hope is your open minded.

The Broadcast Owership Rules, sounds like to me that if passes this country will be going down a very long wrong path that will take yours an my rights to know.

What I'm hearing if true will take everyone's right to know about anything or maybe everything.

Thats not a free nation is it ? What is to become of us? I ask you one on one to think this over.

Thanks for your time, Wayne a keirseey hume mo

**From:** Elena I. Popp  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 9:09 PM  
**Subject:** Fully Disclose Your ideas on pending FCC changes

Elena I. Popp  
3283 Romulus Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90065-4927

May 25, 2003

Commissioner Michael Copps  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Copps:

It is my understanding that the Federal Communications Commission is considering possible changes to its media ownership rules. I urge you to fully disclose your ideas on this extremely important issue and allow hearings and public comment.

Allowing greater concentration and cross-ownership of media may have a profound impact on Americans' access to a wide range of news, information, programming and political commentary. To have a healthy democratic dialogue and participation on major issues, I believe it is important that we have access to a diversity of opinions and information, not a handful of options. Altering media ownership rules could seriously affect vigorous public debate and the marketplace of ideas. Rulemaking of this significance should therefore be open to public comment.

I also believe that, to stay democratic and free, we need to ensure diversity of opinion and the free exchange of ideas. It is imperative that there be the widest possible comment on any proposed rule so the Commission may fairly and impartially evaluate whether it will promote or hinder such diversity.

Once again, I urge you to fully disclose your ideas on this extremely important issue and allow hearings and public comment.

Sincerely,

Elena I. Popp



**From:** Floydz5669@aol.com  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 9:28 PM  
**Subject:** Propaganda machine

Don't be a Nazi. America needs what is left of the media, and what you and your little corporate buddies have already destroyed to be free. The free press is breathing it's last breath, and you're responsible for the coup de tat.  
People will want to know who killed America when they wake up and the blood is on your hands.

**From:** WDaniel152@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 9:31 PM  
**Subject:** (no subject)

It has come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission is planning to authorize sweeping changes to the American news media. The rules change could allow our local TV stations, newspapers, radio stations, and cable providers to all be owned by one company! NBC, ABC, CBS and Fox could have the same corporate parent. The resulting concentration of ownership would be deeply destructive to our democracy. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN.

Thank you.  
Wayne Daniel  
200 Wallington Drive, #74  
El Paso, TX 79902

**From:** Crwhit99@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sun, May 25, 2003 11:04 PM  
**Subject:** Opposition to Allowing Companies to Control Over 30% of Market

Dear FCC Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to oppose allowing any company to control more than 30% of the market. I believe that large companies already control too much of the communications market, so I feel that it is important not to change the rules to allow even more dominance of the market by large companies that may not have an interest in the well-being of local communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn R. Whiting  
17 Chestnut Road  
Reading MA 01867

**From:** DoctorDak@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 12:13 AM  
**Subject:** monopolies, past and present

Sirs and Ma'am;

The US government saw fit to break up Ma Bell, and to go after Microsoft because they perceived a danger to the public from a monopoly. These 'monopolies' were for phone service and a computer operating system, respectively. The monopoly you're contemplating allowing, a monopoly on information, will be immensely more damaging to our Republic than those two could ever have been. Surely you can see that, compared to phone service and an operating system, an information monopoly is an incredible threat to our way of life.

Information shapes opinion. In order to be able to make informed decisions as voters, we need to have a plenitude of information sources. To allow these sources in any region to be owned and controlled by one corporate giant, with its own interests, is to prevent free discussion. Control of information is control of thought.

Our democracy requires that we insist on the free and complete dissemination of information.

Jack P Brownlow  
465 Simpson Rd  
White, GA 30184

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** Dewaspirit@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein, KM  
**KJMWEB**  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 1:54 AM  
**Subject:** (no subject)

To: F.C.C.

Please help keep this country free and open by voting NOT to allow any business to own all the media outlets in a particular area. The fact that there has been little or no coverage of the upcoming vote speaks boatloads about the current state of "fair and balanced reporting". Your vote to allow exclusive ownership in an area will pay back the lobbyist that have entertained you. Your vote to allow freedom to continue will be looking out for the public interest.

You can always tell those lobbyist there was too much heat this time and that you will try to pass it next year. They won't cut you off as long as you can do them some good. Do me some good! Vote no to big business and yes to the people.

Thanks for your consideration  
in this matter,  
Rita Luse

**From:** Guinans95@aol.com  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 4:18 AM  
**Subject:** (no subject)

Mr. Copps:

I ask in the strongest terms that you and the FCC board refrain from further loosening ownership rules in the broadcast industry.

As you know, the media industry is qualitatively different from other industries. It does not sell oil or cotton clothing or automobiles. In a real sense its only product is ideas, and a primary medium for those ideas is the public airwaves. By allowing fewer and fewer powerful media conglomerates control over a larger portion of the available bandwidth (in addition to the print media in many markets) you will be shrinking the breadth of ideas readily available to a large portion of the public, whose best interests you are implicitly entrusted with.

Is this in the best interest of the Republic? Or rather, does the public interest lie in a broad spectrum of voices and ideas which result from a broad-based ownership of various media outlets in various markets? The answer seems to me quite clear.

If AOL/Time-Warner, News Corp. or Disney sold shoes or paint or office furniture I would indeed oppose any attempt to artificially limit the growth of their businesses.

Media in this country has always held a special consideration. Indeed, an amendment of the Constitution deals specifically with the press and the free \_expression of ideas. Would the Founders of the Republic be gladdened by the notion of fewer voices available to the body politic? Of course not.

The larger media companies already have adequate access to the public's ears and eyes. The present FCC rules protect everyone. Don't change them.

Sincerely,

Francis Guinan  
Valley Village, CA  
pinkymvg@yahoo.com

**From:** Walter Maxwell  
**To:** graham@grahamjones.com, Commissioner Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy, KM  
KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 12:07 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Please Stop the trend of Media Concentration

As a former owner of two radio stations in Kingston, NY which were family owned, I agree with your thoughts completely, Graham.

BIGNESS in not better. It maybe more efficient but it certainly is not better.

Walter Maxwell  
82 John Street  
Kingston, NY 12401

----- Original Message -----

From: "Graham S. Jones, II" <graham@grahamjones.com>  
To: "Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner" <jadelste@fcc.gov>;  
"Honorable Kathleen O. Abernathy, Commissioner" <kabernat@fcc.gov>;  
"Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner" <kjmweb@fcc.gov>; "Honorable  
Michael K. Powell, Chairman" <mpowell@fcc.gov>; "Honorable Michael J.  
Copps, Commissioner" <mcopps@fcc.gov>  
Sent: Monday, May 26, 2003 8:54 AM  
Subject: Please Stop the trend of Media Concentration

> Dear Members of the FCC:

>

> The June 2 vote on relaxing of media concentration standards is a  
> serious worry to this citizen.

>

> As Chairman of the City of Poughkeepsie Planning Board for over nine  
> years and as a community activist in Chappaqua, New York, earlier in my  
> life, my experience with local politics and local issues is  
> significant. The role of local media in local politics is very  
> important.

>

> Having observed the media for many, many decades, it is obvious that  
> each broadcaster and each of the print media has a point of view. One  
> of the great strengths of our republic is that we have a diversity of  
> opinions expressed in a great diversity of media. However, since 1996  
> the local voices have been silenced in the mid Hudson Valley and across  
> the country. Clear Channel and Cumulus have silenced many local  
> programs here and elsewhere. What a terrible loss to our community and  
> other communities. Information in a republic is not a fungible product  
> such as wheat which provides greater value to the consumer because of  
> lower costs of production. The cost of consolidation of media is a loss  
> of value to the consumer as we hear satellite broadcasts from far away  
> which send no news to us about our local communities. All we get is  
> the far off views of ABC or CNN national radio news.

>

> Moreover, if a liberal, a conservative, a trial lawyer advocate, a  
> teachers union advocate, a civil services employees union advocate, a  
> socialist or a maverick owns the consolidated media, his view and no  
> others may be presented to the viewer or listener. Without the

- > diversity of CNN, FOX, CNBC, CSPAN, MSNBC and the Lehrer News Hour, how
- > is one to know what is happening? No one of those strong cable news
- > media tells the full story. The Wall Street Journal, the Washington
- > Post and the New York Times keep each other on their toes. Who would
- > want to have a Jason Blair to be the only reporter for the only
- > newspaper is we had a single national newspaper and a single cable news
- > network? That of course is the ridiculous example of what could happen
- > if we allow too much concentration of media on a national level, but in
- > a less extreme degree of concentration of media, a Rivera or an Arnett
- > can damage this country. The local media has so few reporters that we
- > are at greater risk locally if we do not have competition.
- >
- > What about the relative silence of local news in Poughkeepsie,
- > particularly on the AM radio dial? The news staffs have either been
- > eliminated or reduced to a paltry number such as one person for several
- > consolidated stations and the newcasts are regional instead of local.
- > Moreover, the number of minutes allocated to news is minimal. Does that
- > serve the public interest? Is there any time devoted to public
- > debate? No. When there is a local election do the stations cover the
- > candidates. Not much, if at all. The incumbents have an advantage
- > since they are covered in the media during their terms. Their political
- > opponents are not covered at all in most cases.
- >
- > Competition between various media companies is extremely important in
- > maintaining the fabric of a democratic form of government. While as FCC
- > Commissioners you are inside the beltway, it is in the states, counties,
- > towns and cities that much of the important political activity in our
- > republic is performed. If our local elected officials are not known,
- > then the wealthy unions, corporations and other centers of economic
- > power will control the promotion of their favorite candidates or the
- > local political contests may be ignored by Clear Channel and Cumulus
- > which are manifestly operated to maximize the bottom line. Let us hope
- > that the FCC will not allow Clear Channel to clear the media of local
- > information and Cumulus to generate nimbus clouds of political atrophy
- > in our once vibrant nation.
- >
- > What about large radio stations in major markets? The fact that Disney
- > owns WABC in New York is a worry. Suppose that FOX or the New York
- > Times gets control of WCBS in New York. Suppose that Time Warner takes
- > over Bloomberg Radio in New York after Mayor Bloomberg gives up his
- > ownership of that station. What is we lose our 50,000 watt radio
- > stations such as WABC in New York, KGO in San Francisco, KMOX in St.
- > Louis, KDKA in Pittsburgh, WLS in Chicago, and WGY in upstate New York
- > and all of their programming comes from New Orleans which becomes a new
- > media center with no local programs and nothing but popular music? All
- > of those scenarios are alarming to me.
- >
- > Please promote diversity of ownership of our public air waves so that we
- > may have a better informed citizen base for local elections and local
- > political action which is a main reason that this is the greatest nation
- > in the history of the world. Please stop concentration of power which
- > is the reason for the cruelty we have seen under Stalin, Hitler and
- > Saddam. Our government was based upon sharing of power as with the
- > congress, the executive branch and the courts which keep each other in
- > check. The FCC has had a great tradition of maintaining the separation
- > of power among the many licensees who provided information to us over



> the decades. Please do what you can to preserve this tradition.

>

> Regards,

>

> Jerry

>

> Graham S. Jones, II

> Registered Patent Attorney; Attorney at Law

>

> 42 Barnard Avenue

> Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-5023

>

> Telephone: 845-473-9118

FAX: 845-485-9399

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**From:** laserjimc@cox.net  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 12:55 PM  
**Subject:** <No Subject>

I oppose changes in FCC rules which would further the contraction of media control.

We should not allow a diversity of independent reporting, of local news and opinion to be swallowed up by ever larger media conglomerates.

James Christopher  
3640 F Street  
Eureka, CA 95503

**From:** Bill White  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 2:04 PM  
**Subject:** Public Considerations

Dear Commissioner Copps-

I would just like to add my voice to the many who must be approaching you at this stage of the decision process - beseeching you to slow down in placing the control of our media and information into even fewer hands than they are now! You have the tools to place this issue of mass markets and monopoly of opinion right under the public's nose, where it belongs. A Democracy is only as effective as its citizens' information and knowledge resources. Commercialism is literally saturating every aspect of our lives, and cookie-cutter news is rattling our sense of citizen participation down to its very roots.

Your organization is the tool created to allow diversity and free flow of opinion in this country. You serve us - not the commercial interests. You should be doing all within your power to creat alternative resources, not putting them out for bids. You should be doing everything you can to support the Public Broadcasting system (which Gingrich assured us was only for the Intellectual Elite) and keep them from having to beg for public resources day after day as more and more big business infiltrates their format.

In closing, please respond to the public whom you serve, open your doors to them, and close them to the huge interests who pay so well for "face time" and to air their perspectives. It's the perspective of the American populace that should be grabbing your attention.

Thanks you for considering this sincere plea from a concerned citizen.....  
most sincerely  
WILLIAM H. WHITE

**From:** walter.goetz  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 2:47 PM  
**Subject:** potential fcc ruling

please do not allow larger mega station corporations to come into existence. In rutland, vt, we had an experience with one such affiliate to a larger corp., only to have our voices blared over by its mobile unit. in requesting that the station cease to infringe on our civil rights we were told that we had to contact the management which was scantonied by its mother station to act as it had. needless to say...the growth of larger media monsters has the potential to limit freedom of speech through its narrow filter of what is fit to broadcast. i am told that your commission has members who do not share this viewpoint, however i urge you to err on the side of caution in this expansion effort....sincerely, pat goetz, wallingford, vt.

**From:** Dorothy Blaustein  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 3:50 PM  
**Subject:** RE: No Change in FCC Regulations, please!

Dear Commissioner Copps,  
Pleased to receive your reply. Dorothy Blaustein [activdot@earthlink.net](mailto:activdot@earthlink.net) It seems to me you might be on my side--the side that does not want changes in FCC regulations. I certainly hope so.

----- Original Message -----

From: Dorothy Blaustein  
To: [jadelste@fcc.gov](mailto:jadelste@fcc.gov)  
Sent: 5/26/03 3:24:35 PM  
Subject: No Change in FCC Regulations, please!

Dear FCC Commissioner,  
June second can be good day. It is up to you. It is my fervent wish that you vote to keep FCC regulations as they are now. There has already been too much deregulation. Please do not buckle under to the pressure of the big media lobbyists. To do that would be unAmerican. The public needs the widest diversity of ideas and opinion. Do not limit what we can see and hear over the airwaves any further. Democracy needs an informed public, not a citizenry dominated by the opinions of blustering no-nothings, who do not inform but are powerful conveyors of what too many accept as fact. I am so thankful for NPR, PBS and C-Span!

Very sincerely yours,  
Dorothy Blaustein  
Retired elementary school teacher  
[activdot@earthlink.net](mailto:activdot@earthlink.net)

--- Dorothy Blaustein  
--- [activdot@earthlink.net](mailto:activdot@earthlink.net)  
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

--- Dorothy Blaustein  
--- [activdot@earthlink.net](mailto:activdot@earthlink.net)  
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

**From:** Gregg E Zuelke  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 3:52 PM  
**Subject:** A comment seen on a Reno television station ... ..

The Honorable Michael Copps:

(NOTE: We are PST/PDT, in Reno, NV)

A "pro/con" comment made on a local Reno, NV. television station concerning increased ownership of media outlets by a large conglomerate, as heard on a national news broadcast:

Clear Channel: "We have two news radio stations in this city" -- (I forgot which city they were talking about) -- "and we cannot get room on billboards to advertise our stations, so we feel we need to be allowed to purchase billboard companies so we can do so."

In the Reno, Sparks and Carson City area of Nevada, Clear Channel and Viacom purchased at least 95% of the billboards available. (I have not looked at the sponsor name on ALL billboards yet, but every one I have looked at so far belong to the two media outlets even though neither own television, radio, cable or newspapers media outlets here.)

I used to see radio and television station ads quite often when we had more than half a dozen independent billboard operators. In the last two years due to the reason stated above, there have not been any billboard ads for television or radio stations.

Of course the big boys want to own more media outlets, because the 'other' big boys are not being fair with their ownership.

Does the public suffer due to this? Though many people would prefer not to have billboards at all, the public does suffer because there is no independent competition.

Monday night, May 12, 2003, on the Reno, NV., Fox 10:pm news (KRXI-11) [master controlled from the Oakland/San Francisco parent company], a segment was aired of you concerning media ownership of radio and television stations.

We have in the TV world:

CBS - Sarkes Tarzian - locally owned  
(produces quite a few local shows throughout the week; quite a few infomercials.)

NBC - Sunbelt Broadcasting - 12+ stations  
(used to produce quite a few local shows, has almost nothing local now; not many infomercials at least except for weekends.)

ABC - Gray Television - 28+ stations  
(since purchasing station 1 year ago, have removed almost all local shows; has added quite a few more infomercials than the previous owner.)

FOX - Cox Broadcasting - ??? stations

(produces only a weather forecast once nightly ... MANY infomercials at least 6 hours a day on weekends.)

UPN - Cox Broadcasting - ??? stations  
(does not produce local shows ... MANY infomercials, mostly on weekends.)

WB - Papas Communications - 17 stations  
(does not produce local shows ... repeats 40% of daily weekdays shows from morning to evening to late night, and 70%+ of weekend shows, as mirroring Saturday to Sunday, and MANY infomercials.)

PBS - University of Nevada, Reno - locally owned  
(produces quite a few local shows)

UNIVISION - ??? owner and stations  
(I do not see infomercials and unknown if they produce any local ... usually see the same stuff daily)

AZTECA - Papas Communications - 17 stations  
(between midnight and 6:am, ALL infomercials, unknown if any local production)

For the couple of truly independent local stations and smaller multiple ownerships, they are the only ones who do seem to care for the community and not QUITE as worried about income over product. The national and larger multiple station ownerships do not seem to care about local and have moved more toward income over quality.

Four of the stations: UPN, FOX, WB and AZTECA, are switched away from Reno, so we pretty much only get what the primary ownership tells we will get, which does mean little local information, if any.

However, if some stations were not owned by larger corporations, we may not see baseball in our area at all since we do not have a team here, for example. (Cox and their master control operation from Oakland / San Francisco does allow this.)

It can be a trade-off of good to bad on local ownership to conglomerate ownerships, depending on what is aired to what is not, but it seems the larger the conglomerate, the worse off what is aired to the local community.

Of our 40 radio stations in a 75 mile radius:

5 stations - Citadel  
(Only one station has any major local programming.

KKOH 780 has a local news show 4 hours in the morning, but it may as well be a looped hourly feed as it repeats the primary news every hour read from the local paper and from the ABC TV affiliate ... VERY LITTLE original news. And only a few minutes each hour for local 'interest<?>' information otherwise. Ditto the noon news from the morning show. One afternoon 2 hour talk show produced locally, ALMOST went fully four hours nationally ... removing any local interest ... only missing out because other Citadel owned stations in different time zones fought to keep their evening lineups. (Our local talk show host is on national for 2 hours ... he grew to

more than 250 stations in one year as 90% of his show is on other Citadel stations ... forced in by Citadel.) Recently, the Saturday morning standard local talk show lineups were dropped for a 4 hour local 'infomercial' produced for the casinos to showcase what shows are coming to them.

(NOTE: KKOH has fired many weekend local talk show hosts if a 'large income advertiser' complained about the subject, even though KKOH aired the standard disclaimer of, "views and comments made by ????? are not necessarily endorsed by this station". Citadel, being the largest conglomerate ownership of stations that has a group of stations in Reno, NV., is the largest bully of 'stay in step with the national ideals or do not broadcast at all ... .. at least in my opinion from what I have heard from the local ways.)

KNHK 92.9 recently dropped ALL local "LIVE" broadcasting, opting to go 100% local [automated] played music w/o even voice tracking. (All we hear is between every track played that they are the local rock expert with NO talk.) No news, and the one weekend local interest show I have heard them produce is aired on two other of their stations as well so it is not really unique to the individual station.

KWYL 93.7 has a four hour local morning live show, then reverts to a network broadcast the remaining hours of the day, and no local broadcasting during the weekend nor any newscast or local information shows.

KNEV 95.5 has a four hour local morning live show, then reverts to local 'voice tracked' airplay the remaining part of the day, with no live weekend shows.

KBUL 98.1 has a four hour local morning live show, then reverts to local 'voice tracked' airplay the remaining part of the day, with no live weekend shows. (Is the third channel that airs the one weekend local public affairs show.)

#### 4 stations - NextMedia

KJZS 92.1 airs 100% local 'voice track' 24/7. No news heard nor local interest shows, at least not during any time I have tuned in to listen to hear what it does.

KTHX 100.1 has a four hour local morning live show, and does air two hours of public shows on Sunday mornings. Otherwise, is a local voice track show the remaining hours of the week.

KRZQ 100.9 picked up a 5 hour show that was dropped by Lotus in 2001 after the contract ended, after the local newspaper was deluged with "letters to the editor" wanting the talk show back. (The 3 person show moved to Sacramento at that time and is now sent back to us via satellite. It is a wild variety show that also airs pertinent news very well, both to Sacramento and Reno.) The rest of the weekdays the station personalities are live, as well as part of each weekend. (VERY little voice track otherwise, but airs the same public affairs info aired on KTHX.)

KSRN 107.7 dropped its 24/7 LIVE LOCAL talent and format of 30's to 70's music (primary ... it did venture to 80's music if it fit their play list overall), to play 70's to 90's 'light' music, after purchasing the independent station 2 years prior, and moving it in to the same facility as their other stations mid 2002. (The [former] owners had PURPOSELY targeted 40's+ listeners ... not worrying WHO had been listening; NextMedia said that it was WRONG to want the 40+ audience so they pulled the format to install the new format to get the younger audience.) KSRN now only airs a four hour live weekday program ... the remaining hours are networked broadcasting.

#### 6 stations - Americom



KPLY 1270 airs 24/7 networked sports, no local local schools or sports, and plays infomercials several hours on the weekends.

KBZZ 1270 has one local show weekdays, that airs from approximately 10am to noon. (A network show does not have a specific time to end the show ... sometimes ending before 10am and sometimes going to 10:45am or later.) This show is VERY interesting as he will call all over the world to have a variety type show, does a lot of local talk and interest information, and does have a lot of local news.) (Recently picked up one show dropped by the weekend KKOH, after the newspaper was deluged with complaints of the loss ... .. the rest of the weekend shows are 'best of' shows from the weekday aired network shows.)

KLCA 96.5 has a four hour local weekday local broadcast show then goes to network broadcast (ALICE format) the remaining hours of the week(end). Unknown if any local 'public affairs' shows but have not heard any when I have tuned in to listen on various hours of each day.)

KWNZ 97.3 is live 6am to 10pm daily and 8am to 7pm weekends. It does have live local public affairs, public interest and such announcements, but normally airs them as a 30 second spot vice half hour or longer segments.

KODS 103.7 has a local four hour weekday show, but when listening to it, it 'almost' sounds as it is voice tracked, as when they talk most times, it is only to announce that they play 'hits of the 60's and 70's with less talk. ALMOST no local interest or news even while live. The rest of the week and weekends are 'local voice track', and the public affairs on Sunday is the same as what is aired on the NextMedia group of stations.

KRNO 106.9 has a local four hour weekday show, going to 'local voice track' the remaining time of the week(end). Have not heard any public interest information on it.

NOTE: NextMedia and Americom reside in the same building on the same floor, only down different hallways. The equipment not found in each studio is housed in a central room, with one 'contracted engineer' running both sides. The sales group Reno Radio Representatives, resides on the same floor, contracting to each group. What news and road conditions aired is a member contracted each group, so when it airs on each station that includes road conditions or news as part of the broadcast, it is the same for each station.

#### 5 stations - Lotus Broadcasting

KPTT 630 airs 24/7 ESPN, no local programming heard.

KHIT 1450 is a networked 24/7 broadcast, other than it recently picked up one show for three hours per day weekdays, dropped by Citadel (KKOH), after the newspapers were deluged by complaints of the loss of the show. (Has changed primary program formats 4 times in 18 months.)

KMTN (KHXR) 94.5 has a four hour local morning show weekdays, with a bit of local information. Goes to network broadcast the remaining hours of the week(end), other than an hour public affairs program Sunday mornings, which also airs on another Lotus owned station, KOZZ.

KDOT 104.5 is LIVE LOCAL 24/7. Has no news that I have noticed, and have not heard public interest information.

KOZZ 105.7 is LIVE LOCAL 24/7 other than a couple of hours in the late evenings weekdays/ weekends that are 'spotlight' type shows of various musical/comical interests. News throughout the day. Though public affair shows of any length are aired early Sundays, they often air short 'public interest' spots and direct the public to call their station phone number for more information.

(This is a rarity for a Reno station that is owned by a large/nationwide conglomerate.)

#### 2 stations - Silverado Broadcasting

(Not a big influence in Reno and not a huge conglomerate, but they do own over a dozen stations in California.)

KNVQ 102.9 was purchased from a [rare] local owner, BECAUSE IT WAS 100,000 ERP. Silverado moved station from Carson City to Reno within six months, dumping all local shows for a network format. Very recently changed formats again, remaining 100% network broadcast.

KPTL 1300 was essentially abandoned by Silverado, as when Silverado purchased KNVQ, they had NO IDEA that there was an AM station also involved. ALL local disc jockeys were fired, they stopped doing local fund raising or broadcasting local high school sports games, going 100% network broadcasting. (A person could go to the AM studio / offices and find the door locked most of the day as most information was produced from the Reno office and networked over to the AM side.) KPTL has just recently been sold to a local company that owns five casinos and am not sure what the new owner will do with the station. (NOTE: Holder Hospitality has purchased three of its five casinos in only the last two years and from contact with [former] employees, Holder Hospitality is anything but hospitable, so I do not expect much from their ownership of KPTL either. The front doors are still locked more than 2/3 of the day.)

#### PBS stations:

KUNR 88.7 by the University of Nevada, produces several local shows of various interest, though have dropped more than 60% of what they used to produce to go national or international.

KKTO 90.5 owned by Sacramento but includes Reno on its ID. Airs NPR and PRI information and does air a few Sacramento local shows.

(NOTE: Many times throughout the day KUNR and KKTO air the SAME SHOW at the SAM TIME, or KUNR may air a show and KKTO airs immediately following KUNR's airing. Probably get 40-60% of what we receive is duplicated between the two stations.)

#### Religious stations:

KIHM 920 - Reno, owned by a national syndicate, only airing a Sunday morning local religious broadcast.

KEFX 89.9 - Reno, (only on line a couple of months ... not sure of owner or program origination)

KNDL 90.7 - Reno, (not sure if on line yet ... only saw the listing that it is a religious station two weeks ago and not received on my tuner at this time.)

KNIS 91.3 - Carson City, owned by a national syndicate. Produces roughly 20% of its material locally, with some local news at the top of the hour.

KRNG 101.3 - Wadsworth, fully local 'acid rock' style religion. Mostly local religious news.

#### Spanish stations:

KXEQ 1340  
KXTO 1550  
KQLO 1590

## KRNV 101.7

(That I do not know Spanish, I do not know where each station originates from for their primary broadcast, local, local 'voice track', or network. Three stations are owned by various national conglomerates ... KQLO is owned by the religious station KIHM.)

## INDEPENDENT STATIONS!!!:

Note that only one station falls within the Reno 'Arbitron' market, KBDB 1400. All other stations are within the 75 mile radius but not on Arbitron. Please note the major local broadcast interests of an INDEPENDENT station over those owned by national conglomerates!!!!)

KBDB 1400 - Reno, NV, is a new station, roughly 1 year old. It was started by a local casino owner when KSRN 107.7 (NextMedia) dumped the 40's+ format for younger aged format. It not only picked up the [former] KSRN format, but includes DAILY for 3 hours a show produced locally, known as "NEVADA MATTERS", and a weekend show [produced locally] known as "AMERICA MATTERS". He broadcasts many 30 second to 1/2 hour local interest and public affairs shows.

KTHO 590 - Lake Tahoe (Kings Beach, CA), is in turmoil as it has been sold three times in four years, while trying to remain a LOCAL broadcast station. It currently is up for sale again, and is on local and network automation while waiting disposition.)

KOWL 1490 - Lake Tahoe, CA, is a local talk and news show for the Lake Tahoe area. Most news is produced locally, though unsure where their resources come from. Night-time is a national news broadcast.

KGVM 99.1 - Gardnerville, NV, is local voice tracked most of the week, but they air local sports games and are live weekday mornings with local interest material throughout the broadcast.

KVLV 980 - Fallon, NV, is local live during their broadcast day. (They power down 11:pm to 5:am) They do farming reports, local 'swap meet' shows, school sports, news, many other things as well as their music format.

KVLV 99.3 - Fallon, NV., has recently sold out to a national broadcast, though still owned locally. They do put local information and public affairs and interest material on their station on weekends.

KSVL 92.3 - Smith Valley, NV, is a "UNIQUE" station to the area. Owned by a casino co-owner, it has NO commercials, NO public affairs, NO talk. It airs SEVEN SONGS, then the FCC ID, SEVEN SONGS, FCC ID, SEVEN SONGS, FCC ID, etc.....the operator is not concerned with income since he has enough from the casino business; KSVL is only 490w ERP.

If you note the trend on the stations, those owned by large(r) conglomerates do mostly what THEY want ... .. usually ONLY going with the local public if there is a huge outcry for something another company / station changes for 'their own [pocketbook] good.

Smaller stations that have to have their own sales staff, program and / or music director, secretary, general manager, 'talent' and all, and seem to do more with less income overall, than larger stations that can share the sales staff, general manager, one secretary for all stations; where all stations pay for the building vice only one station paying for a building and utilities.....

Citadel is almost 100% conservative in our local market. Only the local news and the 10pm to 5:am broadcast "Coast to Coast" are not heavily slanted conservative. Of course, the comment that we NEED a 'conservative' radio station to unslant the liberal TV news stations may be true, as when I listen to the national newscasts on TV, they are way slanted to liberalism. Surprisingly, we do not have any 'liberal' talk show radio stations ... .. KBZZ 1270 is mostly an 'entertainment' talk show station, which in my opinion is an excellent choice and a rarity for the Reno, NV area.)

That I have heard and read the damage that has come of super-conglomerates such as Clear Channel, Infinity/CBS, Disney, Citadel, and such where if an 'affiliate' is often forced to carry what the main owner wants them to carry, to allow 'super-conglomerates own even MORE stations (unlimited<?>) in each market, the little local stations that try to air local sports, local public affairs, local news, local live chit-chat, local live music with REAL-TIME disc jockeys, will cause the loss of localism and the capability of the 'public' to raise an outcry to where a company will look in to and [hopefully/maybe] bring back a local interest show that was dropped by a [larger/national] conglomerate whose only interests are their pocketbooks.

I do urge you to vote NO to the unlimited ownership rule being considered by the FCC.

Thank you!

Gregg E Zuelke ET1 USN (ret)  
Silver Springs, NV  
P1-12-12947 (former 1st RT w/bcast)  
PG-GB-03757 (lifetime issue before requirements were canceled)  
KC7NXL  
(Independent transmitter equipment maintenance)

PS: On a personal observation, the web site <http://users.hfx.eastlink.ca/~amstereo/index.htm> lists what happens when big-wigs decide they do not like something that once the FCC approved the standard, really did bring AM Stereo in to light and of a HUGELY better quality than AM MONO, but still left the mystique of AM sound overall to the end user.

I noticed that the NRSC suspended IBOC testing due to the noise and poor quality of the sound. The 'big-wigs' that I've read about mostly want IBOC as they can dump more commercial ad material and earn more \$\$\$\$\$, though they may not increase any of the side benefits of the station, such as bringing back "LIVE" local disc jockeys, vice 'voice tracked' jockeys.

Poorer quality for more income. That is what I see if unlimited ownership is allowed by super-conglomerates.

Thank you again for listening, and for being on the side of the consumer for you comment I had heard on one local (switched from another city) TV station.

Respectfully,

Gregg

**From:** Ksue100@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 3:54 PM  
**Subject:** RE: media ownership rules

Chairman Michael K. Powell  
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

I am writing to urge you to NOT weaken the rules that help to preserve competition and diversity among the owners of American media.

It appears likely that you may relax the rules. Please reconsider. If you do, one company may be allowed to own the local newspaper, several TV and radio stations and the cable TV system in the same community. That would mean fewer owners of networks, stations, and newspapers nationwide. Media ownership is already concentrated in the hands of too few. If further media concentration is allowed, the likely stampede of mergers would give a handful of large corporations greater influence over what is-and is not-reported in the news. The public's ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints cannot be compromised any further.

I understand that the public comments submitted to you by individuals have been overwhelmingly opposed to further media consolidation. A healthy democracy is best served by a diverse marketplace of ideas and Americans understand that the public interest is not being served by deregulation that reduces competition.

Please reinstate your traditional media ownership rules for the sake of competition and democracy. Ensure that American news media remains competitive and offers broad range of views. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Carol Finney  
Kansas City, KS

**From:** GTHEISS777@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 4:50 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Please do NOT relax broadcast ownership rules

Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, please do NOT relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect America from media monopolies.

Americans need to hear more than one point of view. For the sake of FREE SPEECH, don't let the media giants control radio and TV news.

Thank you.

Sincerely in Messiah,

George Theiss  
USMC Vietnam Veteran

Shop, Save and Help a Veteran

You can save money and help support a disabled veteran  
without spending an extra cent !!

**From:** Murray Kniffen  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 5:11 PM  
**Subject:** <No Subject>

The Honorable Michael J. Copps, Commissioner

I have read that the Federal Communications Commission will take its final vote on June 2nd on whether or not to change current "Broadcast Ownership Rules" and allow very large media companies to acquire an even larger share of television and radio stations across our country.

If these rules change it could give a small group of media executives the power to arbitrarily keep the National Rifle Association viewpoints off the T.V. and radio airwaves in many communities and states, even regions of our nation. Certain media giants have already demonstrated a strong anti-gun bias in their news coverage and programming. They have shown the power to restrict second amendment rights of gun owners by reducing access to the air waves.

Please vote against any increase in concentration of ownership of radio and T.V. stations.

Thank you, Murray Kniffen, 1015 Accent Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146 314-434-5540

**From:** Janis Parkhurst  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 5:23 PM  
**Subject:** FCC regulation changes

Dear Commissioner Coops,

Thank you for your fine effort to inform the American public about the upcoming regulation changes. I strongly support public hearings on any changes before they become law. I also oppose any more media consolidation.

Sincerely,  
Allan Parkhurst



**From:** galelynnhunt@att.net  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 5:29 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Please be like Wal-Mart --Listen & Take Action Immediately

Thank you for your response concerning media consolidation. It is difficult to ascertain the needed fine line between freedom of speech and integrity and responsibility to the community at large. We came to grips with this issue over cigarette smokers rights to infringe on the use of air, I suggest we assume inappropriate language and scenes be thought of in the same manner. What each one of us does, does impact another and we must be responsible for our language and our action and the impact it has on the community at large.

> Thank you for your message concerning media consolidation. I am happy to know  
> that you are participating in the debate over this issue and hope that you  
> will continue to do so in the weeks leading up to the June 2 vote and  
> thereafter. We must come to grips with this issue because it is so important  
> not only for the kinds of entertainment we get from our media, but also from  
> the standpoint of what it means for the news and information that sustains our  
> country's democratic dialogue. I hope you will talk about this issue with  
> your friends, neighbors, local media and government officials. Again, thanks  
> for getting in touch.  
>

**From:** Anarchopeacenik8@aol.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Kathleen Abernathy, Mike Powell  
**Date:** Mon, May 26, 2003 9:52 PM  
**Subject:** hope for competition

Chairman Michael K. Powell: mpowell@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy: kabernat@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps: mcopps@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin: kjmweb@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein: jadelste@fcc.gov

commissioners,

it is my opinion that the current rules that limit the amount of control a single corporation can have in broadcasting are already too lenient. i believe that any loosening of current controls is of major consequence and should involve extensive public debate.

competition has been sacrificed for the sake of competitiveness. fewer owners means less competition. competitiveness, for it's own sake, sacrifices diversity and customer choice.

these days going up and down the radio dial is a lot like playing a game of monopoly in the late stages. instead of paying all of your money to the same owner, you're listening to the same programming from large media conglomerates.

several years ago restrictions were removed on radio ownership. it has resulted in one third fewer owners than there were before the restrictions were removed. any further broadening of ownership can only result in further consolidation. currently, there are five major corporations that control roughly ninety percent of the media.

the national association of broadcasters cynically suggests that allowing combinations will allow smaller, local stations to compete with the larger conglomerates that dominate already. what is much more likely is that the struggling small broadcasters will continue to be gobbled up, one by one, by the well-financed big fish.

the effects of the removal of limits on radio ownership has led to a sharp decline in the quality of the programming. as stations are brought into a larger family of broadcasters, local programming is removed to make room for the "higher profile" (lowest common denominator?) personalities. you see fewer and fewer variations across a broader and broader spectrum. this erodes the connection between the broadcasters and the communities they serve and literally silences local voices.

this type of media consolidation is a danger to our democracy. as in the film mr. smith goes to washington, public opinion can be easily controlled when newspaper and radio content are condensed under a single influence. with that influence expanded into cable and television, so is the control. control is the antithesis of freedom.

i have a vision of broadcast media that allows for only one frequency per company. i believe that is what would serve the interest of the american public.

no one entity should be able to control the broadcast of more than one frequency to ensure competitiveness and diversity of programming. there should be as many different broadcasters as are willing. ideally, the dial would be crammed with as many stations as will fit.

with increased demand, licensing should be done on a rotating basis. no one entity should be able to control a particular frequency indefinitely for profit.

the public airwaves should be accessible to the people. an emphasis should be placed on community and non-profit broadcasters with funding and training incentives. bandwidth should be made available for such broadcasting on the local level.

this can work. my involvement in community radio and webcasting has taught me the value of a diverse range of programming. there are many dedicated and talented individuals who are willing to make community media work. if you give them a chance.

we need you to do the responsible thing and protect the public interest instead of the corporate interest.

thank you,

ken ostrander  
orlando, florida

"you're not going to have a country that can make these kinds of rules work, if you haven't got men that can tell human rights from a punch in the nose."  
-jefferson smith on the declaration of independance

current rules prevent a single corporation from:  
dominating local tv markets  
merging a community's tv stations, radio stations, and newspapers  
merging two of the major tv networks  
controlling more than thirty five percent of tv households in the nation

333  
Alabama  
110  
Alaska  
199  
Arizona  
257  
Arkansas  
889  
California  
222  
Colorado  
107  
Connecticut  
33  
Delaware  
14

District of Columbia

556

Florida

445

Georgia

84

Hawaii

129

Idaho

427

Illinois

323

Indiana

256

Iowa

216

Kansas

332

Kentucky

256

Louisiana

115

Maine

142

Maryland

189

Massachusetts

410

Michigan

314

Minnesota

349

Mississippi

358

Missouri

134

Montana

154

Nebraska

93

Nevada

89

New Hampshire

118

New Jersey

172

New Mexico

537

New York

421

North Carolina

99

North Dakota

412

Ohio

210

Oklahoma

244

Oregon

489

Pennsylvania

37

Rhode Island

234

South Carolina

115

South Dakota

408

Tennessee

858

Texas

110

Utah

76

Vermont

334

Virginia

264

Washington

191

West Virginia

335

Wisconsin

103

Wyoming

Compiled from M Street Corporation data, updated December, 2002

**From:** Mindia Devi Klein  
**To:** Mike Powell, Michael Copps, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Tue, May 27, 2003 1:50 AM  
**Subject:** Re: FCC Deregulation

To: FCC Commissioners

I find it almost absurd to the point of disbelief that the FCC, an organization that is intended to act on behalf of the public's good and the public's common ownership of the air waves, could be in any way shape or form, contemplating allowing for the so called "de-regulation" (doing away with any more of the protective laws) of our communications systems. The FCC does this knowing full well that the giant media conglomerates, of which there are only a handful, will have almost total control over everything America reads, sees, and hears.

Now we are not stupid and we all know clearly that democracy dies when there is no diversity of view points given voice in the public domain. When there is no debate, no representation of any but a single, dominant corporate stamped point of view we have brain washing and propaganda. And no public exposure of any kind of those media giants who own the media. A democracy, and ours in particular depends on, and is in fact intended to be "of the people, for the people and by the people". However multibillion dollar corporate interests are in fact not the interests of, for and by the people. We the people be damned! And so we will if there is any further deregulation of the media.

This letter is intended to express my outrage at the amount of control which the FCC (supposedly representing the interests of the people of this "democracy") has already given up to the corporate media. As a citizen of this country I am outraged at the FCC's unconcern for the public good, for our most fundamental democratic rights. These rights cannot be served unless the public has equal access to the media which means that corporate interests whose ONLY CONCERN IS PROFIT, NOT QUALITY OF LIFE, LIBERTY or the PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS FOR THE PEOPLE, must not be allowed, given free reign to monopolize the media.

Deregulation of the last few remaining controls on the media will have the effect of silencing the people. This ruling would essentially do away with the people's access to the media throwing us back into a state of rule by the wealthy few over the masses of humanity. Without access to the airways, we have no representation. And when the people have no representation they have the conditions that gave way to the original American Revolution.

You do not fool us. Nor does this administration fool the people of Iraq when you ludicrously tell them you're coming in to bring them democracy while at the exact same time you attempt to eradicate the laws right here which are intended to protect and promote democracy. You don't fool anyone but yourselves. Because in the end, when you are so bloated with wealth and privilege that you are drowning in your gluttony, you will remember that true freedom cannot be bought with hypocrisy and greed.

YOU DO NOT HAVE THE PERMISSION OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS DEMOCRACY TO ALLOW A SMALL GROUP OF GIANT CORPORATIONS TO OWN AND CONTROL OUR PUBLIC AIRWAVES, AND OTHER FORMS OF MEDIA.

THINK AGAIN!,

Mindia Devi,  
a citizen

--